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Message Text

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ORIGIN ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 EPA-04 NRC-07 SP-02
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DRAFTED BY ERDA:OIPI:EWA:PFRANK:BW
APPROVED BY MPROCHNIK OES/NET
ERDA:OIRDP:JVANDERRYN
EUR/RPE:PLLAASE
EB/ORF/FSE:BRAM
AY EPA:DSMITH
NRC:RHAUBER
----------311353Z 093782 /43
P 302359Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH NEA DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL
WILLIAMS, MARCH 17, 1977

REF. STATE 63794

1. STATE, ERDA, NRC AND EPA REPRESENTATIVES MET WITH
WILLIAMS AND DISCUSSED 1978 NEA PROGRAM, SECRETARIAT
VACANCIES, AMD RELATED BUDGET AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS.

2. WILLIAMS NOTED THAT NEA PROGRAM SUBSTANTIALLY RE-
ORGANIZED IN 1975 IN RESPONSE TO URGENCY OF ENERGY
CRISIS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF IEA. ROUTINE TASKS ACCUMULATED
OVER YEARS OF OPERATION PHASED OUT OR RELEGATED TO LOWEST
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PRIORITY. ATTENTION OF SECRETARIAT FOCUSED ON DEFINED
PRIORITY AREAS, I.E. RADWASTE MANAGEMENT, NUCLEAR SAFETY,
TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC STUDIES AND RADIATION PROTECTION.
WILLIAMS EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF INPUT BY NATIONAL
REPRESENTATIVES IN IDENTIFYING PRIORITIES WITHIN EACH
AREA.

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3. IN DISCUSSION OF NEA'S RELATIVELY PASSIVE ROLE IN PROMOTING COOPERATIVE R&D PROJECTS, WILLIAMS NOTED THAT

R&D PROJECTS SHOULD BE EXTENSION OF INFORMATION EXCHANGES NOT END IN THEMSELVES. AS EXAMPLE, WILLIAMS CITED PRESSURE FOR R, D AND D IN GEOLOGIC DISPOSAL NOTING THAT SUCH ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE PRECEEDED BY STUDIES ON RISK ANALYSIS. HE BELIEVES NEA PERFORMING THESE TASKS IN PROPER SEQUENCE.

4. WILLIAMS STATED HIS INTENTION TO REQUEST GENERAL AUTHORIZATION FROM STEERING COMMITTEE IN APRIL TO PUBLISH RESPONSIBLE TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS (WITH SUITABLE DISCLAIMERS IDENTIFYING THE REPORTS AS NOT REFLECTING VIEWS OF MEMBER GOVERNMENTS) WHICH WOULD SERVE AS STIMULI TO POLICY DISCUSSIONS. SPECIFICALLY, SUCH RULING DESIRED FOR POLVANI REPORT ON "OBJECTIVES, CONCEPTS, AND STRATEGIES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES." PUBLICATION OF SUCH REPORTS WOULD BE PRELIMINARY STEP IN PROCESS OF ANALYZING TECHNICAL OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO MEMBER COUNTRIES IN NUCLEAR POLICY AREAS. US AGENCIES POINTED OUT THAT THE TOTAL PROCESS MUST BE HIGHLY VISIBLE TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDINGS OF NATIONAL POLICIES. ALSO, INITIATION OF SUCH STUDIES SHOULD BE ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY IN ADVANCE TO MEMBER COUNTRIES.

5. US AGENCIES REITERATED TO WILLIAMS NECESSITY FOR RESTRUCTURING AND MORE DETAIL IN NEA BUDGET/WORK PROGRAM TO ASSESS RELATIVE SIGNIFICANCE IN RESOURCE COMMITMENSS.
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WILLIAMS HAS AGREED TO LIST MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH PARAGRAPH IN WORK PROGRAM/BUDGET TO BE SUBMITTED TO APRIL STEERING COMMITTEE.

6. DISCUSSIONS OF NEA PROGRAM CENTERED ON THREE MAJOR COMMITTEES, USING DRAFT PROGRAM PROVIDED BY WILLIAMS AS BASIS FOR COMMENTS.

7. IN RADIATION PROTECTION AREA, WILLIAMS ENCOURAGED US TO EXERT INFLUENCE IN COMMITTEE TO INITIATE DESIRED IN-DEPTH PLANNING FOR EACH SUB AREA OVER 4-5 YEAR PERIOD INCLUDING DEFINABLE OBJECTIVES AND MILESTONES. WILLIAMS ENDORSED SUCH PLANNING PERSONALLY BUT NOTED THAT SEC-RETARIAT INPUTS TO THIS COMMITTEE NOT ALWAYS WELCOMED. WILLIAMS AGREED TO MAKE KNOWN TO KEY SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS THAT DEFINITIVE PLANNING IN ALL COMMITTEES WILL BE STRONGLY ADVOCATED BY US.

8. STUDIES ON SAFETY ASPECTS OF PRODUCTION AND POSSIBLE

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FUTURE USES OF PLUTONIUM WILL BE INAUGURATED AT JUNE 7-8
SUB GROUP MEETING AND WILL BECOME MAJOR ITEM IN RADIATION
PROTECTION PROGRAM. WILLIAMS CONSIDERS THAT COMPREHENSIVE
TECHNICAL ANALYSIS OF SAFETY ASPECTS, NOT RELATED TO

NON-PROLIFERATION POLICIES, IS NECESSARY NOW. (FYI:
EXTENT AND POSSIBLE NATURE OF US PARTICIPATION NOT YET
DETERMINED.)

9. CONCERNING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NUCLEAR ENERGY
RELATED PROJECT(S) OF OECD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND
ACTIVITIES OF NEA, WILLIAMS SAID NEA MEMBER COUNTRIES
CONSIDER ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS RELATED TO NUCLEAR
POWER DEVELOPMENT AS PART OF NEA TOTAL RESPONSIBILITY.
WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK, HE SAID, NEA WISHES TO AVOID
DUPLICATION AND COMPETITION WITH ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.
IT WAS CLEAR THAT HE DID NOT SHARE OUR VIEW THAT THE
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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SHOULD HAVE SUBSTANTIVE, COMPLEMEN-
TARY ROLE VIS-A-VIS APPROPRIATE NEA PROJECTS.

10. RAD WASTE DISCUSSION CENTERED ON US INITIATIVES IN
GEOLOGIC DISPOSAL AND EUROCHEMIC PROGRAM. VANDERRYN
INFORMED WILLIAMS THAT US IS CONSIDERING ESTABLISHING
HIGH LEVEL GROUP TO FORMULATE&D PROGRAM PLAN
INCLUDING DEMONSTRATION OF RAD WASTE TERMINAL STORAGE
AS WELL AS DEVELOPING AGREED GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR
WASTE MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS. WILLIAMS NOTED THAT,
IN PAST, RESOURCES HAVE NOT BEEN DEVOTED TO THIS PROBLEM
IN NEA COUNTRIES, BUT AGAIN STRESSED THAT R&D NEEDED
TO BE PRECEEDED BY INFO EXCHANGES AND PAPER STUDIES;
HE APPROVED OF US TAKING LEAD TO SOLVE PROBLEMS ON
INTERNATIONAL LEVEL.

11. NEW DRAFT PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL R&D AT EUROCHEMIC
WILL BE CIRCULATED BY END OF MARCH. EUROCHEMIC BOARD
OF DIRECTORS HAS DECIDED THAT SINCE FIRST PRIORITY MUST
BE LEGAL OBLIGATIONS TO HOST COUNTRY, INTERNATIONAL
R&D PROGRAM WILL BE SCRAPPED IF AGREEMENT NOT REACHED BY
JULY 1977.

12. USERDA PROPOSED EFFORT ON SPENT FUEL STORAGE FOR
1978 PROGRAM. WILLIAMS AGREED THAT REGARDLESS OF THE
FINAL DECISION ON REPROCESSING, THIS PROBLEM SHOULD BE
EXAMINED, PROBABLY IN CONTEXT OF NON-PROLIFERATION
STUDIES.

1B. SYSTEM OF INFORMATION NOTES HAS PROVED VERY USEFUL
TO SMALLER NEA COUNTRIES, THOUGH NOT SO TO LARGER

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MEMBERS. WILLIAMS PROPOSES TRIAL PERIOD BE EXTENDED
ANOTHER YEAR. WE STRESSED US VIEW THAT EFFORT NOT NEEDED,

BUT IN VIEW OF LOW LEVEL SUPPORT REQUIRED, AGREED TO
EXTENSION.
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14. IN WILLIAMS VIEW, CURRENT NELT MANDATE OR MEMBERSHIP
NO LONGER SUITABLE FOR MEMBERS NEEDS. NEED
EXECUTIVE GROUP ("WORKING STEERING COMMITTEE") TO
OVERSEE TOTAL FUEL CYCLE PROGRAM OF NEA. ACCORDINGLY,
HE WILL RECOMMEND IN APRIL THAT AD HOC GROUP TO EXAMINE
POSSIBILITIES FOR RE-ORIENTATION BE ESTABLISHED AND
MAKE REPORT TO OCTOBER STEERING COMMITTEE. WILLIAMS WILL
RECOMMEND PICTE OF SWITZERLAND TO LEAD AD HOC GROUP
AND POSSIBLY NEW GROUP.

15. US AGENCIES OBJECTED TO UNDERTAKING NEW ANALYSIS
OF REPROCESSING OF SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL IN OECD COUNTRIES
IN978. WILLIAMS BELIEVES OTHER COUNTRIES DISAGREE
ON NEED FOR SUCH STUDY. ERDA PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE STUDIES
FOR 1978 ON ALTERNATE FUEL CYCLES. MULTINATIONAL FUEL
CYCLE CENTERS, AND LWR AVAILABILITY. (WE ARE EXAMINING
THE POSSIBILITY OF PROPOSING THESE AS SUBSTITUTE FOR
REPROCESSING STUDY AT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING.)

16. US EXPRESSED INTEREST IN DRAGON ARCHIVES ACCESS
(TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS ONLY) BUT DRAGON PARTICIPANTS HAD
UNANIMOUSLY AGREED NOT TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO NON-PARTICI-
PANTS (AND US TACITLY ACCEPTED THIS DECISION
AT OCTOBER 1976 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING). WILLIAMS
AGREED TO EXPLORE SUBJECT INFORMALLY.

17. PER WILLIAMS REQUEST, LETTER INDICATING US READINESS
TO JOIN GCFR GROUP WILL BE FORWARDED FOR TRANSMITTAL
SHORTLY.

18. AMALGAMATION OF COMPUTER PROGRAM LIBRARY AND NEUTRON
DATA COMPILATION CENTER WILL BE STRONGLY OPPOSED BY
ITALIANS AT STEERING COMMITTEE. US AGENCIES INDICATED
SUPPORT FOR AMALGAMATION BASED ON BUDGET SAVINGS.
WILLIAMS HAS PLACED THIS ON AGENDA FOR FIRST AFTERNOON
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OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, IN HOPES THAT ISSUE WILL

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BE RESOLVED EARLY AND DISCUSSIONS ON OTHER IMPORTANT MATTERS CAN TAKE PLACE DURING FOLLOWING DAT.

19. AT F&R INFORMAL MEETING NEXT DAY, WILLIAMS SUGGESTED THAT STUDIES PROPOSED BY ERDA PARA 16 BE INITIATED IN 1977. AS STATED IN REFTEL, WE BELIEVE TIME AVAILABLE BEFORE APRIL MEETING INSUFFICIENT FOR THIS PURPOSE.

20. US NOTED PROBLEM WITH INTERNAL POLICY COORDINATION STEMMING FROM DIRECT SECRETARIAT - NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS. WILLIAMS AGREED TO LIST ALL ADDRESSES ON CORRESPONDENCE AND TO PROVIDE COPIES TO MISSION FOR DISTRIBUTION AS APPROPRIATE.

21. RE SECRETARIAT POSTS, WILLIAMS NOTED THAT THERE IS NO NATIONAL QUOTA SYSTEM BUT POLICY IS TO MAXIMIZE NUMBER OF MEMBER COUNTRIES REPRESENTED IN SECRETARIAT. WILLIAMS FAVORS US NATIONAL IN EACH OF THE FOUR TECHNICAL DIVISIONS (P. HOGROIAN ALREADY ON BOARD IN NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT, E. MAESTAS SLATED FOR RADIATION PROTECTION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION). THERE ARE NO CURRENT VACANCIES IN NUCLEAR SAFETY DIVISION ALTHOUGH TWO NEW POSITIONS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED FOR 1978; US CANDIDATE COULD FILL ONE OF THESE. NO EXPANSION FORESEEN IN NUCLEAR SCIENCE DIVISION. STAFFING POLICY BASED IN PART ON OECD RULES AND IN PART ON MANAGEMENT DISCRETION. WE ENCOURAGED CIRCULATION OF VACANCY NOTICES AS FAR AHEAD AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO INCREASE NUMBER OF INTERESTED US CANDIDATES.

22. WILLIAMS NOTED THAT DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL POST WILL BE VACANT AS OF MAY 1, 1977. US PROMISED SLATE OF CANDIDATES ASAP.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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TAGS: TECH, ENRG, AMGT, PORG, OECD, NEA, IEA
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vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/781d7db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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